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TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 MCT-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 1727

E.O. 12065 GDS (3/2/05) HALLMAN, WILLIAM H) OR-P
TAGS SMUN, AR
SUBJECT (U) SUPREME COURT MOVES ON THE GIORGI CASE

1. (U) THE BUENOS AIRES HERALD FRONT-PAGED TODAY (3/2) STORY THAT THE SUPREME COURT HAS ORDERED THAT A JUDGE BE CHOSEN TO INTERVENE INTO THE CASE OF ALFREDO ANATONIO GIORGI, WHO WAS ABDUCTED FROM HIS WORK AS A RESEARCH SCIENTIST AT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY (INTI) ON NOVEMBER 27, 1978 BY PERSONS CLAIMING TO BE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY SERVICE INVESTIGATING A SUBVERSIVE CRIME. THE COURT ACTED ON BASIS OF A PETITION BY THE MAN'S FATHER, WHO STATED INTER ALIA THAT THE STAFF OF A COURT JUDGE HAD DENIED A HABEAS CORPUS WRIT FOR A PETTY REASON.

2. (U) THE HERALD RELATES THE CASE TO OTHER RECENT COURT DECISIONS AFFECTING DISAPPEARANCES (SEE BUENOS AIRES 1997) AND IN AN ACCOMPANYING EDITORIAL CITES THE DECISION AS A "LANDMARK CASE. "(THE OCCASION) ... MAY GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS A GLORIOUS OCCASION ... (WHEN) OSVALDO CESAR GIORGI WALKED THROUGH THE PORTALS OF THE LAW COURTS IN BUENOS AND TOOK THE ELEVATOR TO THE FOURTH FLOOR, WHERE THE SUPREME COURT IS LOCATED. HE CARRIED WITH HIM A WRITTEN
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PETITION SIMILAR TO COUNTLESS, LARGELY UNHEEDED.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 4/30/82

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APPEALS HE HAD MADE TO THE GOVERNMENT, OTHER JUDGES... ON BEHALF OF HIS SON."

3. (C) WE UNDERSTAND THE HERALD'S ASSIGNMENT OF IMPORTANCE TO THIS CASE SINCE, AS THE NEWSPAPER POINTS OUT, THIS A NEW AND ASSERTIVE MOVE BY THE COURT OF ITS INTEREST IN THE WHOLE PROBLEM OF THE DISAPPEAREDS. IT IS IMPORTANT TOO THAT STEADY STRENGTHENING OF THE COURT'S POSITIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS FOLLOWS A PATTERN OF REJUVENATION OF THE LEGAL TRADE GENERALLY -- SOME OF IT ENCOURAGED, WE BELIEVE, BY EFFORTS OF THE MISSION. (SEE 1970 BUENOS AIRES 0796 AND 4682.)

4. (C) COMMENT: THE GIORGI CASE (601/70/12) HAS BEEN OF INTEREST TO THE EMBASSY SINCE ITS BEGINNING. WE ASKED ABOUT IT TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN DECEMBER AND ARE AWAITING A REPLY. SEE ALSO HARRIS MEMCONS OF DECEMBER 26 AND DECEMBER 28 REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY THAT GIORGI HAS BEEN IN A DETENTION FACILITY.
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